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Dockets

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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OCT 12 1993

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

CN9303845

Honorable Sam Nunn
United States Senator
75 Spring Street, S.W.
Suite 1700
Atlanta, GA 30303

93-253

RECEIVED

OCT 13 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Nunn:

This is in response to your letter of September 16, 1993, addressing the 2 GHz Personal Communications Service (PCS) proceeding, GEN Docket No. 90-314. Your constituent, Voncel Gregory, expresses concern that the Commission might limit or preclude exchange carriers, particularly rural telephone companies, from offering PCS.

On September 23, 1993, the Commission adopted final rules in GEN Docket No. 90-314. Our decision allocates 120 megahertz of spectrum for licensed PCS, and permits telephone companies without cellular interests to access up to 40 megahertz of this spectrum (the maximum authorized to any one licensee). Telephone companies with cellular interests will be restricted to 10 megahertz in a PCS service area in which they own twenty or more percent of the stock in a cellular company, if the cellular company serves 10 or more percent of the population of the PCS service area. Local exchange carriers are permitted to apply for PCS licenses on the same basis as other applicants, except insofar as they hold interests in cellular operations. In a companion Notice of Proposed Rule Making in PP Docket No. 93-253, the Commission proposed licensing preferences in 30 megahertz of spectrum for rural telephone companies, small businesses, and businesses owned by minorities and women.

The Commission's actions that address PCS are designed to foster competition among PCS providers and between PCS providers and cellular radio operators and to ensure expeditious provision of PCS in both urban and rural areas. I am attaching the press releases of GEN Docket No. 90-314 and PP Docket No. 93-253 that more fully describe the Commission's actions.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Stanley

Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

SAM NUNN, GEORGIA, CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

ARNOLD J. FORAN, STAFF DIRECTOR
ANTHONY J. PRINCE, STAFF DIRECTOR FOR THE MINORITY

September 16, 1993

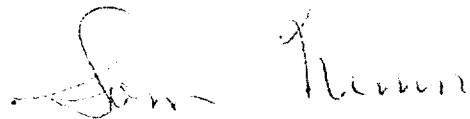
Ms. Laura J. Belvin, Acting Director
Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Belvin:

I recently received the enclosed inquiry from one of my constituents. Please review the matter thoroughly, in accordance with established policies and procedures, and provide me with a full report.

I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Sincerely,



Sam Nunn

Enclosure

SN/cja

PLEASE REPLY TO:
75 Spring Street, S.W.
Suite 1700
Atlanta, Ga. 30303
Attn: Corey Anderson

DET
90-314
3845

TDS TELECOM

ATL

East First Street
P.O. Box 607
Blue Ridge, GA 30513-0607

Telephone: (706) 632-2211
FAX: (706) 632-5555

Blue Ridge
Telephone Company

August 27, 1993

Senator Sam Nunn
United States Senate
SD-303 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510-1001

Dear Senator Nunn:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Mr. William Caton, Acting Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. This letter is urging the FCC to fully support Exchange Carrier Participation in the PCS/PCN licensing process.

Congress specifically directed in the Budget Reconciliation bill that the FCC shall "ensure that small businesses, rural telephone companies...be given the opportunity to participate in the provision of spectrum based services...". It seems clear the intent of Congress is that rural telephone Companies be allowed to participate in PCS/PCN. In my letter to Mr. Caton I have asked that he carry out and support Congress intent.

I would appreciate your review of this PCS/PCN licensing process. Thank you for your support.

Yours truly,

Voncel Gregory

Voncel Gregory
Manager

VG/bht

TDS TELECOM

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P.O. Box 607
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Telephone: (706) 632-2211
FAX: (706) 632-5555

*Blue Ridge
Telephone Company*

August 27, 1993

Mr. William Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W., 2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

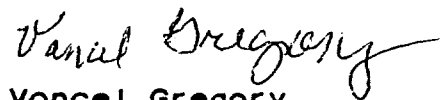
I am a Manager for a small rural telephone company in North Georgia. I am writing to urge the FCC to fully support Exchange Carrier participation in the PCS/PCN licensing process. To prevent Exchange Carriers, particularly rural telephone companies, from being able to participate in this field would be a mistake. Exchange Carriers are particularly well qualified to provide radio based telecommunications services to local subscribers as evidenced by the tremendous growth in the cellular industry. Exchange Carriers have the expertise, financial resources and distribution network to rapidly advance the deployment of PCS in their service areas. Additionally, Congress specifically directed in the Budget Reconciliation bill that the FCC shall "ensure that small businesses, rural telephone companies...be given the opportunity to participate in the provision of spectrum based services...". It appears clear, the Intent of Congress is for rural telephone companies be allowed to participate in PCS/PCN and I am asking you to carry out and support Congress's Intent.

Full participation by Exchange Carrier's in the development and deployment of PCS/PCN is in the best interest of the public and the telecommunications industry. Rural telephone company participation in PCS would help achieve the FCC's and exchange carriers's universal service obligations. Exchange Carrier participation in PCS/PCN would allow for more efficient utilization of the existing local network infrastructure. Much of the local distribution network for PCS is in place within the Exchange Carrier's serving areas.

Exchange Carriers have proven that they can work together to operate the current seamless telecommunications network through fair and appropriate industrywide business arrangements. Exchange Carriers are therefore in the best position to effectively and efficiently help develop PCS/PCN and bring this new technology to the public market.

I am asking that the FCC allow Exchange Carrier's, particularly rural telephone companies, participation in the PCS/PCN licensing process. Thank you for your help and support with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Voncel Gregory".

Voncel Gregory
Manager